

REMARKS

As a result of this amendment, claim 1, 4, 5, 13, and 20 have been amended, claims 3, 9, 15, 16, 19, and 22 have been canceled and new claims 28 and 29 have been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's determination that claims 3, 4, 15, 16, and 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly independent claim 1 now incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 3; independent claim 13 incorporates the allowable subject matter of claims 15 and 16; and independent claim 20 incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 22.

New Claims

New claim 28 claims the subject matter as represented by the embodiment of FIGS. 4A-4E showing a helical margin and a land on the leading side of the margin as represented by element 86 in FIG 4C. None of the art cited by the Examiner shows a land on the leading side of the margin.

New claim 29 claims the subject matter as represented by the embodiment of FIGS. 3A-3E showing a trailing side of the margin helically formed and the leading side of the margin extending to the face of the insert body. It is noted that the width of the margin 82 increases from the leading end to the trailing end of the land at an angle corresponding to the helix angle of the trailing side of the margin. None of the art cited by the Examiner shows such a margin.

New claims 28 and 29 are fully supported by the specification and the independent claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added and it is believed that no additional searching is required.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the grouping of figures in the Brief Description of the Drawings section. The specification has now been amended to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Claim Rejections -- 35 USC §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 5 and 23 based on 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claim 5 has now been amended per the Examiner's recommendation. Claim 23, although not amended, now has proper antecedent basis as claim 22 has been incorporated into claim 20 from which claim 23 depends.

Claim Rejections -- 35 USC §102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 5-7, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19, 20, 24, 26, and 27 under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by Heule (6,551,036).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 7, and 9-12 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Reinauer (5,599,145).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 7, and 9-12 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by PCT WO 00/07761.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 7, and 9-12 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Galvefors (4,744,704).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6, and 9 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Nevills (5,452,971).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 20, 21, and 26 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese (2000-84718).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6, and 9 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by UK 550,306.

The Applicant traverses the Examiner's argument in that the claims as amended are all based on allowable independent claims as discussed above. The subject matter of the new claims are also not shown in any of the cited prior art.

Claim Rejections -- 35 USC §103

The Examiner has rejected claims 5, 13, 14, 17-21, and 24-27 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over UK '306 in view of Rodel (5,474,407) and further in view of Galvefors (4,744,704).

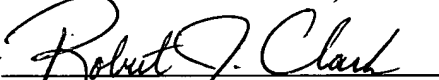
The Examiner has rejected claims 4-9, 20, and 22 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Heule (6,551,036) in view of Nevills (5,452,971) and further in view of Mast et al. (6,685,402).

The Applicant traverses the Examiner's argument in that the claims as amended are all based on allowable independent claims as discussed above. The subject matter of the new claims are also not shown in any of the cited prior art.

Prompt consideration of this application and allowance of the claims are requested. If the examiner should have any question regarding this application or the amendment, a call to applicant's attorney would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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